Increase in Electricity Production through Non-Conventional Sources

259. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state the details of increase in production of electricity in the country, particularly in the North-Eastern region, during the Ninth Five Year Plan, through Non-conventional energy sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): About 3882.82 million units of electricity is estimated to have been generated so far during Ninth Five Year Plan through various renewable energy sources such as Small Hydro, Wind, Biomass Co-generation, Biomass Gasification, Solar Photovoltaic and Urban & Industrial Wastes Programmes in the country, which includes about 3.5 million units in North-Eastern region through Small Hydro Power. In addition, 11870 nos. of Solar Lanterns, 2003 nos. of Solar Home Lighting systems, 201 nos. of Solar Street Lighting Systems and 15 nos. of Solar Pumps have been installed in the North-Eastern region during Ninth Five Year Plan.

Setting up two Thermal Power Projects in Bihar

260. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foundation stones of two thermal power projects to be located at Barh and North Karnpura in Bihar were laid by the Prime Minister;

(b) if so, what are the projected dates for completion of these projects; and

(c) how these projects are going to be financed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The foundation stones for two Super Thermal Power Projects one at Barh in Patna district and the other at North Karanpura in chatra district, Bihar were laid by Prime Minister in March, 1999.

(b) and (c) The projects with a capacity of 2000 MW each have been identified as mega power projects to be implemented by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). NTPC has taken up